



Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarms

Smoke Alarms

- New construction. Every one and two family dwelling unit and each townhouse shall have approved smoke alarms.
 - In each sleeping room and in the hallway outside of each sleeping room.
 - On each story of the dwelling, including habitable basements and attics. In dwellings and dwelling units with split levels and without an intervening door between the adjacent levels, a smoke alarm installed on the upper level shall suffice for the adjacent lower level provided that the lower level is less than one full story below the upper level.
- Alterations, repairs and additions. An individual dwelling unit shall be equipped with smoke alarms located as required for new construction when:
 - Alterations, repairs, (including installation or replacement of windows or exterior doors), or additions requiring a permit.
 - One or more sleeping rooms are added or created in existing dwellings.

Exception: Work involving exterior surfaces of dwellings such as the replacement of roofing or siding or the addition of an open porch or deck or chimney repairs.

- Power source. Smoke alarms shall receive their primary power from the building wiring and when power is interrupted, shall receive power from a battery. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting switch other than those required for overcurrent protection.

Exception: Hard wiring of smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required where alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of interior wall or ceiling finishes exposing the structure unless there is an attic, crawlspace or basement available which could provide access for hard wiring without the removal of interior finishes.

- Interconnection. Alarm devices shall be interconnected so that activation of one alarm shall activate all the alarms.

Exception: Interconnection of smoke alarms in existing areas shall not be required where alterations or repairs do not result in the removal of finishes exposing structure, unless there is an attic, crawlspace or basement available which could provide for interconnection without the removal of interior finishes.

- All smoke alarms shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 217 and installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation manual, the Minnesota State Building Code and the household fire warning equipment provisions of NFPA 72.

Carbon Monoxide Alarms

- New construction. Every one and two family dwelling unit and each townhouse shall have an approved carbon monoxide (CO) alarm installed when one of the following conditions occur:
 - Fuel fired appliances are installed.
 - Has an attached garage
- Alterations, repairs and additions. Where interior work requiring a permit occurs in existing dwellings that have attached garages or fuel fired appliances CO detectors shall be provided.
- Installation. CO alarms shall be installed outside and not more than 10' from each sleeping room and on each level containing a sleeping room.
- Single station CO alarms shall be listed as complying with UL 2034 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's installation instructions.

Call the City of Mendota Heights' Department of Building Safety at 651 452 1850 if you have questions (8:00-4:30 M-F).